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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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PHOTO SERIES NO. 18

TRUCKS FOR FARM PRODUCTS OF AGRICULTURE

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Trucks have taken over an increasing share of the task of moving the nation's farm products to market, to the extent that about 85 percent of the cattle and hogs and 55 percent of fresh fruits and vegetables go to market by truck. Over the years, trucks have evolved into many different sizes, with design and equipment to meet requirements of different products. Pictures were taken for USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service.



N-25737--This modern livestock truck will haul about 25,000 pounds of live animals. It is used almost exclusively to haul fed cattle to the Chicago market from Iowa; usually goes home empty. Its customary load is about 20 head of cattle; double-decked it could haul about 100 hogs or sheep.



N-25717--Fresh fruits and vegetables from anywhere to anywhere is a quick description of this mechanically refrigerated semi-trailer truck, 37 feet long. Its capacity is almost as great as that of a rail freight car. Its customary run is from the Rocky Mountain area to Chicago and return.



N-25725--This tractor-trailer combination is slightly older. It uses bunker ice, with air circulated by a fan powered by the "putt-putt" mounted on the nose of the trailer. It is commonly seen hauling fruits and vegetables out of Florida.



N-25723--For short hauls, from railroad track to wholesale store and from wholesale to retail store, trucks of this size are commonly used. Note shortened wheelbase, to facilitate turning and parking.

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N-25724--The body style indicates that this truck is nearly 30 years old, but it still carries its owner and assorted fresh produce through Chicago neighborhoods.



N-25719--There is reputed to be only one blacksmith still doing business in Chicago (1958), but he has a few working customers, including this huckster and his horse.



N-25761--Piggyback service is a mileage-saver for trucks, often a time and money-saver for shippers. This trailer was loaded at a plant in St. Louis the afternoon before, loaded on a railroad flat car, and unloaded the following morning in Chicago. It was ready for unloading at its destination before 9 A. M.



 $N\text{-}25688\text{--}The}$ insulated, refrigerated trucks in this fleet are used to haul frozen foods from a sub-zero warehouse to retail stores in the Chicago metropolitan area.



N-25744--Most truck owners think it pays to keep their trucks clean even though it involves an outlay of cash. A commercial truck-washing service does a big business each morning at the Chicago stock yard. Price for a truck of this size: \$4.50.



N-25658--This milk truck, used for making home and retail deliveries, is an example of specialized design. There is no seat for the driver. Storage racks are built on both sides of the steering wheel as well as in the main body of the truck to the rear of the driver.